

# In Recital

## Amy Tucker, cello

with pianists

Roger Admiral

Carmen Ouelette

Wednesday, November 15, 2000 at 8:00 pm

Sonata for Violoncello and Piano in D Major, Op.102, No. 2 (1815)

Ludwig Van Beethoven  
(1770-1827)

1. Allegro con brio
2. Adagio con molto sentimento d'affetto
3. Allegro - Allegro fugato

Roger Admiral

Variations on a Rococo Theme for Violoncello and Piano in A Major, Op.33 (1876)

Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky  
(1840-1893)

Roger Admiral

### Intermission

Sonata for Violoncello and Piano in D Minor, Op.40 (1934)

Dmitry Shostakovich  
(1906-1975)

1. Allegro ma non troppo - Largo
2. Allegro
3. Largo
4. Allegro

Carmen Ouellette

This recital is presented in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the Bachelor of Music degree of Ms Tucker.

### Program Notes

The Sonata in D Major Op.102, Nr.2 is the last of five sonatas composed for the cello by Beethoven. Since they were written over the course of his life, such stylistic divisions are evident within these works. Both sonatas of Op.102 were dedicated to the Countess Marie Von Erdody and are stylistically close to his late piano sonatas and string quartets. Following the opening vigorous and intensely energetic Allegro con brio movement, is a slow lament which is documented to relate Countess Erdody's loss of a precious child. The third movement swiftly follows into a furious and large-scaled four voiced fugue.

The Variations on a Rococo Theme demonstrate Tchaikovsky's supreme ability at juxtaposing the simple, ornate and the charming, with his renowned dramatic and romantic musical style. The word 'rococo' is a derivation from its French origin 'rocaille', meaning fancy rock work typical in classical architecture. In music the term has been adopted to refer to the decorative and ornate style of late Baroque French composers such as Couperin, Rameau and J.C Bach. The adoption of the Theme and Variation form is indicative of Tchaikovsky's interest in such classical forms (he especially liked Mozart). The Rococo Variations is one of the favoured cello concert pieces today for its sprightly, vivacious themes and technical demands on the performer. The Shostakovich Sonata was written in 1934, just two years prior to his criticized Opera, 'Lady Macbeth of

the Mtsensk District'. What was disapproved for its "formalistic, intellectual and discordant" tendencies were factors that were to restrict the musical capacities of such Russian composers. In fact, during his lifetime Shostakovich was largely influenced by the terrifying, highly regimented political environment in Russia that was controlled by its forceful leader, Joseph Stalin. There is little doubt that such hardship was projected into Shostakovich's musical style; and such themes of despair, horror, sarcasm and intensity are heard throughout his only Cello Sonata.

Amy Tucker began studying cello at the age of 8. She played with the Queensland Youth Orchestra from the age of 12, and performed at Sydney Opera House for the International Music Festival in 1992. In 1996/97 her orchestra performed throughout South Korea and Japan. Amy has her Associate in Music (Australia), and has attended a number of music festivals, including Mozart in the Mountains Festival in Victoria, Australia and the Orford Arts Centre, Canada. She is in her final year of the Bachelor of Music program in Performance at the University of Alberta.



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University of Alberta

